

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to increase Rates for Water Service in its Palos Verdes District.

Application 03-01-034  
(Filed January 31, 2003)

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Oroville District.

Application 03-01-035  
(Filed January 31, 2003)

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Selma District.

Application 03-01-036  
(Filed January 31, 2003)

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Dominguez District.

Application 03-01-037  
(Filed January 31, 2003)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING  
SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

A coordinated Prehearing Conference (PHC) in these four proceedings will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, April 4, 2003, in the Commission Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102.

### **1. Parties to Proceedings**

In each of the four proceedings, the applicant is California Water Service Company. The protestant in each of the four cases is the Office or Ratepayer Advocates (ORA). Applicant and protestant shall comply with this ruling.

### **2. Issues to be Addressed**

By separate applications, applicant seeks the Commission's approval of rate adjustment for years 2003 through 2006 for each of its four districts: Palos Verdes, Oroville, Selma, and Dominquez. In each proceeding, ORA opposes the application and maintains that the application should be dismissed for failure to make a prima facie showing that the proposed rate adjustment is justified. ORA also asks for consolidation of the four proceedings.

The PHC will address the possibility of consolidation, the schedule for motions or briefing concerning the sufficiency of the applications, the issues to be litigated, the need for any discovery, the need for public participation hearings, the possibility of a mediated solution, the schedule for subsequent proceedings, and any other matters the parties believe should be discussed.

### **3. PHC Statements**

On or before April 1, 2003, the parties shall file and serve PHC statements (Rule 6.2.). The PHC statements will address the issues, schedule, and any matter related to the applicability of Rule 2.5 to this proceeding. The parties should also identify and discuss anything else necessary for an expeditious and efficient completion of this proceeding. In addition to normal service of these statements, the parties shall e-mail their PHC statements to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) [jet@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jet@cpuc.ca.gov).

#### **4. Service of Pleadings**

Parties should also come to the PHC prepared to discuss the desirability of adopting a rule that service of pleadings in this proceeding will be by electronic mail, without concurrent service of a paper copy (Rule 2.3(b).). If adopted, however, this rule would not vacate the Commissioner's rules regarding filing of paper copies, Rule 2.5, or the need to serve paper copies on any party without an electronic mail address.

#### **5. Transcripts**

Parties who desire an expedited or daily transcript should advise the Chief Hearing Reporter by telephone at (415) 703-2288 no later than three days prior to the PHC. Questions regarding the date, time or place for the PHC should be directed to the Calendar Clerk at (415) 703-1203.

Dated March 19, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

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/s/ JOHN THORSON  
John Thorson  
Administrative Law Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail, to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Setting Prehearing Conference on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated March 19, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CLAIRE JOHNSON

Claire Johnson

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.

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